

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 8174

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, TECH, NI, KECM
SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL SOLAR COMMERCIALIZATION WORK GROUP

PASS TO: WILLIAM CORCORAN
OFFICE OF CONSERVATION AND SOLAR APPLICATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

SUMMARY: THIS OVERVIEW OF KENYA AND CAMEROON FOR
PANEL 6, DPR BY ISCWG, BASED ON 15 INTERVIEWS. END
SUMMARY.

1. KENYA: THIS COULD BE A LARGE MARKET FOR SOLAR
ENERGY AS ALL OIL IS IMPORTED.
2. OF 300 MW INSTALLED, 80 PERCENT IS OIL FIRED AND 20 PERCENT
HYDRO.
3. GOOD GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES: 9 MW PROVE, 6 MW
UNDER CONSTRUCTION FINANCED BY WORLD BANK: AN ESTI-
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MATED 170-500 MY POTENTIAL.

4. KENYA CONTRACTED WITH UN FOR A 1 YEAR 1 MAN
ENERGY SURVEY JUST BEGINNING. THIS WILL REACH
GOK THRU ITS NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY, AN ADVISORY BODY. THE STUDY INCLUDES
A DEMONSTRATION PROJECT BUT GOK DOES NOT WANT IT.

5. SO FAR THE ENERGY SURVEY HAS FOCUSED ON RURAL APPLICATIONS AND PARTICULARLY THE PROBLEM OF SLOWING DEFORESTATION BY FINDING AN ALTERNATIVE TO CHARCOAL FOR COOKING. THE CONCENSUES HERE IS THAT SOLAR COOKERS ARE NOT THE ANSWER ALTHROUGH BIOGAS DIGESTERS PROVIDING METHANE MAY BE IF SOCIALLY ACCEPTED.

6. THE STRONG NATIONAL POLICY OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY LEADS TO THE NEED FOR TRANSFER OF SOLAR TECHNOLOGY BUT LOCAL MANUFACTURE OF SOLAR COMPONENTS. COOPERATION IS READILY AVAILABLE IF IT FITS THIS POLICY.

7. THE ENGINEERING FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ARE WORKING ON SOLAR DEVICES WITH EMPHASIS ON SIMPLICITY SUCH AS WINDMILLS MADE FROM LOCAL MATERIALS SOLAR H/W, DISTILLATION, COOKING, AND REFRIGERATION BIOMASS BIOMASS PROJECTS INCLUDE DIGESTERS ON A VILLAGE SCALE FOR COOKING AND ADAPTATION OF A GASOLINE ENGINE TO OPERATE ON METHANE. THE ENGINEERING FACULTY ACTS AS A CONSULTING GROUP FOR SOLAR APPLICATIONS. THE UNIVERSITY HAS COLLECTED WIND DATA BUT IT IS NOT YET READY FOR DISTRIBUTION.

8. THE MANAGEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM IS BASED IN ZLA 6-. ONE OF ITS THREE PROJECTS IS A RENEWABLE ENERGY WITH A MEETING UNCLASSIFIED

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SCHEDULED NEXT MARCH IN BANGKOK ON DESERTIFICATION, SOLAR, WIND, AND BIOGAS. DEMONSTRATIONS PROGRAMS OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES ARE PLANNED FOR SRI LANKA, SENEGAL, MEXICO, AND THE PHILIPPINES.

9. CAMEROON: RICH IN HYDRO RESOURCES. PRESENT HYDRO, 263 MW PLUS 51 THERMAL FOR TOTAL OF 314 MW. UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT SONG LAULAU IN SOUTHERN REGION IS DAM WITH 28 MW CAPACITY. IN NORTHERN SECTION A 74 MW HYDRO PLANT IS BEING BUILT AT LAGDO BY THE CHINESE AS AN AID PROJECT. GOC PLANS TO EXTEND THE LAGDO GRID TO NORTHERN TOWNS AND MOVE EXISTING THERMAL PLANTS, SUCH AS 40-50 KW DIESEL GENERATORS, TO OTHER TOWNS NOT ON THE GRID.

10. THE POWER FROM SONG LAULAU AND LAGDO PLANTS IS DEDICATED PRIMARILY TO ATTRACTING MORE INDUSTRY. AS AN INCENTIVE, POWER IS SOLD BELOW COST TO INDUSTRY. PRESENT HYDRO BUSBAR ENERGY COST IS 2.7 CENTS/KWH BUT A LARGE ALUMINIUM PLANT HERE PAYS ONLY 0.73 CENTS/KWH. THE CONSUMER PAYS 30 CENTS/KWH OR 40 TIMES MORE THAN THE ALUMINIUM PLANT. IN ANOTHER EXAMPLE, THE GOC

BUILT A THERMAL PLANT FOR AN INDUSTRIAL USER: THE POWER COST WAS 10 CENTS/KWH BUT THE USER PAID LESS THAN HALF THE COST. SOME DIESEL GENERATING PLANTS HAVE COSTS AS HIGH AS 60 CENTS/KWH. CONSUMER POWER PRICES AT 4 LEVELS: PLUS 21 CENTS/KWH IN DOUALA, 23 IN YAOUNDE, 27-32 IN SMALLER TOWNS, AND AS HIGH AS 40 IN SECONDARY CENTERS.

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11. ONE PRODUCING OIL WELL, ACTIVE OIL EXPLORATION, A 1.5 MILLION TONS/YEAR REFINERY UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND A MODEST DEMAND WILL SOON MAKE CAMEROON SELF-SUFFICIENT IN OIL FOR AN ESTIMATED 15 YEARS. REGULAR GASOLINE COST CONSUMERS ABOUT DOLLARS 1.15/ GALLON.

12. THE HIGH ELECTRIC PRICES CHARGED CONSUMERS, THE HIGH COST OF ELECTRIC POWER BY DIESEL GENERATORS, THE HIGH COST OF FUEL, AND THE NEED FOR POWER BEYOND THE GRID ON THE SEMI-ARID AREA OF THE NORTH ALL MAKE SOLAR ENERGY A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE.

13. SOFIRATES, FRENCH FIRM, HAS INSTALLED A SOLAR PUMP AT MAKARI, ANOTHER FRENCH FIRM, PUMP-GUINARD ATTEMPTED TO INSTALL A PV PUMP IN THE NORTH BUT FAILED BECAUSE OF A WATER PROBLE.

14. GOC IS OPEN AND WILLING TO COOPEATE WITH OTHERS WHO FURNISH AID BUT THIS MUST BE PURSUED. POSSIBLE U.S. COOPERATIVE PROJECTS ARE : (A) PROVIDING SOLAR RADIATION INSTRUMENTATION FOR A PROPOSED COUNTRY WIDE MEASUREMENT PROJECT AND (B) TECHNICAL

MANPOWER TO ACCELERATE THE ENERGY DEMAND AND RESOURCE
STUDY.
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15. AUGUSTIN SIMO AND NICOLAS NJABA-KABA ARE COMING
TO THE U.S. JULY 16 ON A 30 DAY ICA TOUR OF ENERGY
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY. ISCWG PROPOSES THAT DOE/CAS
TAKE THE LEAD IN EXTENDING THE VISIT BY AT LEAST TWO
WEEKS. THIS MIGHT APPLY TO OTHER AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES
AS WELL. THE EXTENSION SHOULD BE USED TO MAKE THESE
REPRESENTATIVES ACQUAINTED WITH SYSTEMS APPLICABLE TO
AFRICA, ESPECIALLY RURAL AND AGRICULTURAL APPLICATIONS.

16. ANOTHER OPPORTUNITY IS FOR DOE TO FIND MEANS FOR
BRINGING SOCIETE NATIONALE DE L'ELECTRICITE DE CAMEROON
(SONEL) OFFICIALS TO THE U.S. AS THEY ARE THE NATIONAL
ELECTRIC UTILITY RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPLYING POWER.

17. BIOMASS HAS GOOD POTENTIAL HERE. THE FACULTY AT
THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF HIGHER STUDIES OF POLYTECHNIQUES
HAVE BUILT A SIMPLE WORKING DIGESTER CAPABLE OF GENERATING
1 M3/DAY OF METHANE, WHICH WOULD PROVIDE COOKING FOR
A FAMILY OF FIVE. IT USES 10 L OF WATER AND 10 L OF COW
MANURE BUT OTHER MATERIALS WILL WORK. THE COST IS ABOUT
DOLS 100, ITS USE IN THE NORTH WOULD HELP SLOW DEFORESTATION.
GOC PLANS TO SPEND DOLS MILLION FOR A 2500 HECTARE
PLANTATION OF EUCALYPTUS TREES FOR TELEPHONE
POLES. THE WASTE COULD BE USED FOR A BIOMASS PLANT.
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